

Dilling jumps his way to first MSU national track title in 10 years

MSU sophomore high jumper Jim Dilling became MSU's first outdoor national champion since 1995 as he won the NCAA Division II high jump May 28.

ABILENE, TEXAS — Minnesota State sophomore high jumper Jim Dilling (Fond du Lac, Wis.) cleared 7' 1 1/4" to claim MSU's first NCAA Division II Outdoor Track and Field Championship since Joey Keillor won the 3,000-meter steeplechase in 1995.

Dilling, who entered the championships as the top seed, bested the second- and third-place finishers Eugene Hutchinson of Cal State- LA and Keith Moffatt of Morehouse by an inch. The jump for Dilling was his fifth jump over seven feet of the season.

In the men's 200-meter dash, junior sprinter Michael Lawrence (Jacksonville, Fla.) ran a :21.02 to finish second in the event. Sophomore Marvin Bien-Aime of Abilene Christian ran a :20.98 to claim the title. Senior pole vaulter Amanda Frame (Pine Island, Minn.) vaulted 13' 1 1/4" to tie Chaunte Mitchell of Cal State Stanslaus for the top height in the pole vault, however Mitchell earned the championship on criteria, giving Frame second place. Junior high jumper Amanda Aning (Luverne, Minn.) did not reach a height in the competition.

In the 3000-meter steeplechase, sophomore Jason Rengo (Spring Lake Park, Minn.) turned in a time of 9:20.68, to earn seventh-place. Nicodemus Naimadu of Abilene Christian ran the circuit in 8:46.71 to claim the championship.

The men's team finished 11th with 20 points, while the women finished 21st with 14 points. Abilene Christian University claimed the men's title with 109 points, while Lincoln tallied 108 points to win the women's team title.